(b) if so, the number of Wireless in the Local Loop (WILL) or wireless telephones proposed to be provided during 2000-2001 in Bangalore city;

(c) whether any survey has been made to identify the areas where this facility is to be provided;

(d) if so, the areas proposed to be covered; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to extend this facility to Bellary, Hubli, Mangalore, Mysore and other cities in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) It is proposed to provide 5000 lines of Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) in Bangalore City during 2000-2001.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is proposed to cover following areas of Bangalore City with WLL :

(i) Indira Nagar

(ii) Central Exchange

(iii) Bangalore East

(iv) R.T. Nagar

(v) Vijayanagar

(e) Yes, Sir, Allotment of 1000 lines of WILL in Mangalore has already been made. The case for providing WLL in other cities of Karnataka, including Bellary, Hubli and Mysore is being considered.

Business Activities with M/s Ericsson Business Network

2643. SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2013 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st December, 1999 and state :

(a) whether Government have discontinued business activities with M/s Ericsson Business Network;

(b) if not the reasons therefor;

(c) what are the business given to the above company during the last two years, projectwise; and

(d) whether notices for discontinuation of business have been issued and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) to (d). As replied in para (d) and (e) of the Unstarred Question No. 2013 on 21-12-1999, the decision of the High Court does not restrain the Government from continuing business if any, with the company. Therefore, the questions now raised (a) to (d) by the Hon'ble M.P. do not arise in view of the reply given earlier.

(It is noted that in the English version of the reply to U.S. Question No. 2013 for 21-12-1999, there was a typographic error. The word 'not' is missing after the word 'does' in the last sentence of para (d) and (e) of the reply to this question. However, this has been correctly reflected in the Hindi version of the reply. Inconvenience caused is regretted. A corrigendum to the above effect is being sent separately.)

Training for Working in Hindi

†2644. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the teleprinter operators working in the various telegraph offices of the Government have been provided compulsory training for working in Hindi;

(b) the number of operators to whom such training have been provided so far and number of those to whom such training is yet to be provided;

(c) the time by when such training is likely to be provided to these operators who have not been trained so far; and

(d) the kind of financial incentive given or will be given to the operators after getting this training ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Teleprinter Operators have been trained for working in Hindi on need basis.

(b) and (c). Requisite Teleprinter Operators have been provided training for Telegraph working in Hindi on need basis. The number of such available trained Teleprinter Operators are 6942.

(d) As per Departmental Policy, one advance increment is given to the Trained Teleprinter Operators after completion of Training.

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†Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.